## In The Matter Of:

Julie Ann Hamstead v. Former Trooper D.R. Walker

> Julie Ann Hamstead December 9, 2019

Sapphire Court Reporting

Original File Julie Ann Hamstead.txt

- A. I was in my car in front of my property, 509 Fairfax Boulevard. I was parked, in the car.
  - Q. And a why did you make this call?

A. Because we had been promised the week before in the field office, the engineer had promised that we were going to get parking spaces back in front of 509. We were going to get three spaces, and he said he was going to work on that and he was going to email my husband with -- with that resolution. Okay? He had not. He had not. And it was Monday, and there was no email and nothing had come from him.

So I saw -- it was easy to see that we were not going to get any spaces back because there was no room for any spaces in front of the humongous sidewalk that they had poured. You know, they'd come out so far into the street that there was absolutely no way that anyone could park there because of the turn, you know, off of First Avenue, because this turn off of First Avenue would have been right into the parking spaces.

- Q. So they had already laid the forms, I guess, for the
- A. They'd laid the forms. They had laid the forms by that time. The forms were way out into the street. So I -- I knew that we weren't going to get those three parking spaces. So I guess I parked there kind of to prove a point,

- we're not going to get three parking spaces back and they've lied to us, you know, so...
- Q. You said you parked there to prove a point. What point were you going to prove?
- A. The point was that no one could park there, that it's unsafe to park there, that we were never -- we would never get three parking spaces back there, we were going to lose the parking in front of our commercial/residential property that I was trying to market, and so here we are.
- Q. Were you calling 911 so that they would send an officer down to give you a ticket for parking there?
- 12 A. Sure. Yeah.

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- Q. So you were basically --
- A. And I told them it was not an emergency. I said this is not an emergency, but I'm basically parked in front of property, but I would like to see if you think it's safe -- if it's going to be safe to park here.
  - Q. So you were basically calling 911 on yourself?
- A. I was basically calling to just get an officer there.
- 20 I didn't know how else to do that.
- 21 (Deposition Exhibit No. 2 was marked for identification.)
- 23 BY MR. JEFFRIES:
- Q. Ms. Hamstead, you've been handed what's been marked as Exhibit 2. These are 911 call reports. Mr. Hamstead

A. In that area.

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- Q. -- wasn't there at the time, was it?
- A. Right, but -- but there's always a truck there and -- and there's always McKinney's truck. And then there were other vehicles behind it. Yes.
- Q. Were you a student at APU at the time you pulled into the parking lot?
  - A. I was not a student.
- Q. Were you an employee of APU when you pulled into the parking lot?
- 11 A. I was not.
- Q. Were you trespassing when you pulled into the parking
- MR. HAMSTEAD: Objection to the form of the question.
- 15 A. There were no "No Trespassing" signs. I didn't think
  16 I was trespassing.
- O. Do you know about what time you pulled into the lot?
  - A. Yes, about -- I'd say it was about six, seven minutes -- seven minutes after 4:00, I would believe, because I -- I made my second call to Martinsburg Journal, which is on my call log, at about 4:06. I made the second call and then just left a message with the Martinsburg Journal. I wanted them to come to -- to maybe cover the story because I wanted to get some friends and we wanted to put some signs up the next day to not pour the sidewalk, to not block us in.

- A. Correct.
  - O. Did you direct that to any particular officer?
- A. Nope.

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- Q. When you and Mr. Morris both made your comments, did the officers at that point say anything?
- A. No. They took the two -- they took the men and went over to the middle of the parking lot. They went back here, right at the corner of the all of the concrete.
  - Q. You said they took the men. Who is "they"?
- A. That would be Newlin and Sigulinsky, the other two -the other two police officers. They left me with him. Left
  me with Walker.
- Q. When you say "they took the men," would that be Morris and DeGrave?
  - A. At least Morris and DeGrave. And I don't know if there were other men there. I think there were other men who were mulling about at that time and joined them, I think. So I don't know who they are.
- 19 Q. Possibly witnesses?
- 20 A. Possibly a couple of other men.
- 21 Q. But you don't know their names?
- 22 A. I don't know their names.
- Q. And you're not even sure if they went? It might have just been Morris and DeGrave?
  - A. Right. It was -- it was a group of men. I think --

So Trooper Walker takes you to the ground, handcuffs Q. 1 you, correct? 2 3 Α. Uh-huh. How long after he handcuffed you was it before you 4 Ο. 5 were put into his cruiser? Right away. 6 Α. Can you mark on here with a W your best approximation 7 of where Trooper Walker's cruiser was parked when you were 8 9 put into it? (Deponent complies.) 10 Α. Is it marking there? It looks like it's kind of 11 Q. 12 dried up. There we go. (Deponent complies.) 13 Α. Paragraph 48 says that "Trooper Walker used 14 Q. unnecessary and excessive force to arrest you on false 15 charges." 16 What false charges did Trooper Walker charge you 17 with? 18 Everything. Everything is a false charge. 19 Α. Destruction of property is a false charge because I didn't 20 destroy anyone's property. There was no property destroyed 21 except for mine. There was no disorderly conduct because I 22 was never disorderly. And so what could I have been 23 obstructing? What is obstruction if you're not obstructing 24 anything? I'm obstructing an illegal arrest? Is that what 25

calls and the ones talking to everyone and stirring it up

- Q. Do you recall in your magistrate court trial he testified under oath that you hit him?
- A. Uh-huh, after he had talked to Matt Schutz a couple days before that. Yes, I do.
- MR. HAMSTEAD: Objection to the form of that question.
  - MR. JEFFRIES: What's that?
  - MR. HAMSTEAD: He testified both ways. I object to the form of that question because he testified both ways in the magistrate trial.
- MR. JEFFRIES: Okay.

## 12 BY MR. JEFFRIES:

Q. You go on to allege in your complaint that "video that depicts the fabrication of evidence was produced by American Public University," or APU, "at your request and provided to you shortly after your arrest but the video was selectively chosen" -- that's the words in your complaint -- "selectively chosen by APU for a time subsequent to Plaintiff's arrest and it reveals that your vehicle entered the APU lot over one minute after Schutz had called 911 stating that you had ran into one of their trucks."

Is APU in on the conspiracy too?

A. I think APU -- I don't know about that, but I think that APU was given a time from us that we wanted 2:15 to 4:15. And for some reason they gave us 4:17 to 4:03 --

104 1 5:03. Did you know why? 2 Q. They -- they say they couldn't see anything. 3 Α. even though we told them, even though you can't see 4 anything, we'd like you to keep that -- keep that video for 5 So I really do believe someone from one of the police 6 went over there to APU and viewed the -- viewed the video 7 and -- with Mr. -- with Timothy Howard and told them this is 8 not the part, you don't need this, you can erase this or 9 10 something. Do you know which officer did that? 11 I don't know. We'll be deposing Timothy Howard and Α. 12 find out if there was an officer who did that. 13 Who is Timothy Howard, just for the record? 14 Q. He's the head of safety. 15 Α. At APU? 16 0. He's the one who -- he's the one who Uh-huh, APU. 17 Α. dropped these odd-timed videos, footage segments onto video, 18 19 so... Why didn't you name APU and Timothy Howard as 20 defendants? 21 MR. HAMSTEAD: Excuse me? I didn't hear the 22 23 question. Why didn't you name APU and Timothy Howard as 24 defendants in the lawsuit? 25

- A. In the left and then the -- if you're coming from APU, the south side is the right.
- Q. Right. Correct. So you testified that at the beginning of the north-side video, Trooper Walker's vehicle could be seen in the frame and that you were in the backseat of it in handcuffs already arrested. Do you recall that testimony?
  - A. I do.

- Q. Do we still have the marker?
- A. I've got them in my purse, yeah.
- Q. Would you mind taking the marker and drawing a circle around the vehicle that you were referring to as Trooper Walker's vehicle?
- 14 A. Uh-huh. Sure. (Deponent complies.)
  - Q. Okay. And you also testified at that hearing that there was a red tow truck from McKinney's that was in the video at the beginning. Would you draw a square around the tow truck you were referring to at that hearing?
  - A. I don't know if you can see the tow truck because of this big tow truck of McKinney's. Are you talking about McKinney's or are you talking about the other dump truck.
- Q. You had testified that there was a McKinney's red tow truck in the frame.
  - A. Yes. This would be the tow truck. That's the tow truck.

- Q. Okay. Can you draw a square around it?
- A. Square. (Deponent complies.)

- Q. I wasn't at the hearing watching the video as you testified so I just -- I kind of followed along with my copy of the video that was provided by your counsel and read along with the testimony and I was pretty sure I knew what you were referring to, but I just wanted to be sure -- certain.
- Okay. So you say that -- you mentioned another vehicle that can't be seen. What were you talking about there?
- A. I'm talking about the red dump truck. It's back there. It's back there behind this tow truck.
  - Q. And you can't see it because of the tow truck?
- A. Well, yeah. You -- from this angle, you couldn't -- couldn't draw a picture of it. There are angles in the video that you could see it.
  - (Deposition Exhibit No. 4 was marked for identification.)
- Q. Okay, Ms. Hamstead. I've handed you another screenshot. This is from the -- what's been referred to as the south-side camera, which you testified kind of covers the right side of the parking lot as you're looking at it from the APU building.

You testified at the hearing on November 9th, 2018,

following your arrest Trooper Walker transmitted you to -in the backseat of his cruiser with your arms handcuffed
behind your back, unbuckled to Jefferson Medical Center.

About what time did you leave the parking lot area?

- A. Well that's all fuzzy because I wasn't -- I wasn't watching my clock that day. So I know it was very late. I guess they'd have that in my records at -- at the hospital, what time I arrived because we were 30 seconds away, so he drove off and...
- Q. You've -- I'm sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt you.

  Are you done?
- 12 A. Uh-huh. Go ahead.
- Q. You've testified that you watched these APU videos numerous times, correct?
- 15 A. Right.

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- Q. Do the APU videos depict you leaving the scene in Trooper Walker's vehicle?
- A. They do not. They do not. They cut it off early.

  I'm in the car that's still parked there when the north side

  cut off, in the backseat of that car.
- Q. Did Mr. Hamstead follow you and Trooper Walker to the hospital?
- 23 A. He followed -- he followed a -- he followed another car and it was not me.
  - Q. Do you know whose other car he --

- A. I do not know. I think it was a decoy car. It could have been -- you know, who knows. It was an extra car called there to the scene.
  - Q. Was it a state police cruiser?

- A. You'll have to -- you'll have to look at the video.

  And it's the last one to leave on the left side. So I don't know what type of car that is really. I think it's a state cruiser. I'm not sure.
- Q. About how long after you arrived at the hospital did Mr. Hamstead arrive?
- A. That, I don't know either. I know that he was there.

  I think that he got there first and he was waiting in their

  parking lot. And so I didn't get there until some time

  later. I get there approximately ten minutes later after he had already gotten there.

We came down a back alley. We -- he cut through the BB&T parking lot and went the back way to get to the hospital.

Q. In your complaint you allege, "Upon information and belief, prior to his arrival with the plaintiff at the hospital, Trooper Walker contacted or caused to be contacted Nurse Kelly Halbert who was waiting at the hospital emergency room receptionist's desk when Trooper Walker arrived there with the plaintiff."

How did Trooper Walker contact Nurse Halbert?

daughter's school up in Martinsburg. And she's a nurse there and she looked over at me, so she was there. I can't remember her name, but we took our children to school together at St. Jo's up in Martinsburg. It was very embarrassing for her -- for me to scream out in pain and then see her watching.

- Q. Did I understand you correctly that this -- this nurse had a child who went to school with your daughter at the time?
- A. The nurse standing in the background who was walking by.
  - Q. But you don't know her name?

- A. I can't remember her name. I'd have to give that to you sometime.
- Q. Your complaint alleges that "The hospital staff subsequently advised plaintiff's counsel that the video camera located at the ER entrance was nonoperable when you arrived. But upon a subsequent inquire, the hospital's attorney stated that the video recording had been destroyed because of the passage of time."

Is it your position that the hospital deliberately destroyed or withheld security camera video of your arrival at the ER?

MR. HAMSTEAD: Object to the form of the question.

A. I have no idea if it was deliberate. I -- it seems

possible that it was because it's just too ironic that hospital cameras don't work, nothing works. It seems to be a little ironic.

- Q. So is the hospital in on the conspiracy as well?
- A. The hospital is in on the suit. You know that.
- Q. But are they in on the conspiracy against you?
- A. Well --

MR. HAMSTEAD: Object to the form of the question.

- A. I'm not sure. If they -- if they helped -- if they helped with procuring false evidence against me, then yes.

  And I would say that Nurse Halbert absolutely, you know, gave false evidence.
- Q. Okay. And I think that's what you're talking about here in Paragraph 75. "In an effort to cover up his excessive use of force in Plaintiff's arrest and to conceal his battery and the resulting injuries to Plaintiff, Trooper Walker conspired with Kelly Halbert, R.N., to violate Plaintiff's privacy rights and obtained a false statement to the effect that Plaintiff had suffered no injuries and that she was abusive to Trooper Walker and created a disturbance falsely crying out in pain when entering the hospital."

That's not what Nurse Halbert said, was it?

- A. Tell me what Nurse Halbert said. Do you have it?
- Q. I do.
  - A. Let's read it. She said it exactly the way Trooper

Walker talks, so it wasn't Nurse Halbert's statement. It was Trooper Walker's statement that she signed.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 5 was marked for identification.)

- Q. I've handed you what's been marked as Exhibit 4 [sic]. This is the --
  - A. Exhibit 5.

Q. I'm sorry. Are we up to Exhibit 5? My apologies.

Exhibit 5, this is the statement from Nurse Halbert.

Can you show me in here where she said that you had suffered no injuries or any words to that effect?

A. Okay. So all the way through this she says, "Patient was moving neck back and forth and verbally being abusive."

Patient -- she was "screaming that she could not move her neck and that her arm was broken, but she had a normal pulse, normal range of motion to left arm and was able to move neck without difficulty."

These are all lies. I was not moving my head back and forth, left and right. I couldn't move my head at that time. These are all lies that would have been shown by a video of the emergency room door. Okay? But we don't have that video, do we? And I wonder why we don't have that video. It's pretty ironic that we don't have that video.

I was put in a neck brace when I entered the hospital and kept in the neck brace, so this is just stuff that was

Why would she have said, "Patient moving neck back and forth"?

- Q. Well, I think I explained --
- A. That makes absolutely no sense.
- Q. I think I explained at the beginning, Ms. Hamstead, that the role here is for me to ask the questions --
  - A. Okay.

Q. -- not for you to ask the questions of me, so I'm going to ask my question again and I'd like a short simple answer.

Have you examined Nurse Halbert's writing samples so that you know how she writes?

- A. I've not been given that opportunity.
- Q. Does that mean no?
- A. That's a no because I haven't been given the opportunity to do discovery.
- Q. You go on to allege that "Plaintiff was further abused, mistreated, and battered by hospital staff who forced Plaintiff's injured left arm above her head to take x-rays, laughing at her when she cried out in pain as her arm was yanked above her head. They further would not assist her in getting down from the steel imaging table and made her roll off and again they laughed as she slipped."

Can you provide me with the names of anyone who did any of those things in Paragraph --

A. I have all those names in my medical records which you have.

- Q. Sitting here today, you can't provide me with any names --
- A. I do not -- I have not memorized the names of those two people. It was a man and a woman. And I did put that in -- I did put that in the complaint that I filed with the board of nursing as well, and so it's in the hospital records, the two people who did that. They thought it was funny.
  - Q. So you said they were a man and a woman?
- A. The female was the one who raised my hand above my -- my arm above my head and it hurt really bad.
- Q. Do you know their positions? Like, were they an x-ray tech and --
  - A. I guess x-ray tech. I don't know. Maybe she was the assistant. The x-ray tech was the male. And he's the one who went in the back, and he actually took the pictures. She was the one who took me there in a wheelchair.
  - Q. Took you to the x-ray room?
  - A. Took me to the x-ray room, did not help me get up, told me to stand there by the machine and jerked my head -- arm above my head.
    - Q. Are these two in on the conspiracy as well?
    - A. You know, I don't like the way you asked that.

Q. Well --

- A. Do you know what a conspiracy means? Can I read that to you?
  - Q. No. That's all right.

Ms. Hamstead, you've alleged throughout your complaint and throughout the magistrate court proceedings that there's this conspiracy to get you, to create false charges against you. And I'm just asking are the two hospital staff who you mentioned in Paragraph 78, "has abused, mistreated, and battered" you, are they in on the conspiracy as well?

MR. HAMSTEAD: Objection to the form of the question.

- A. Well, you see -- I don't know what you -- if you want to say they are or not, but they did -- they did act with a group to do something unharmful -- to do something harmful and unlawful. They did not act professional. They did not do their jobs professionally. They acted as if I was a criminal and they treated me like so.
- Q. When you say they did something "with a group," what group are you referring to?
- A. Well, the two police officers who were out there bringing information into the hospital and hanging out and...
- Q. In Paragraph 80 you allege that although undocumented, one sympathetic nurse showed Plaintiff finger

Yes. 1 Q. Matthew Harvey. 2 Α. 3 He was in April of 2016? Q. Well, that's a good question. I have no idea. 4 Α. have no idea. I'm assuming he was. 5 In Paragraph 84 of your complaint you allege that, 6 "Even after arrangements were made to have a magistrate 7 appear for arraignment" -- who made the arrangements for a 8 9 magistrate to appear? The magistrate called him. She made the 10 Α. 11 arrangements. How did the magistrate know to call Trooper Walker? 12 Q. Well, she just called. Α. 13 She just thought I'm going to call Trooper Walker and 14 Q. 15 see what's up? She was -- she was -- she was called earlier in the 16 Α. 17 day. Okay. Who called her earlier in the day? 18 Q. Probably my husband. 19 Α. Why was it necessary to make arrangements for a 20 Q. magistrate to appear? 21 Because he wanted to put me to jail -- put me in jail 22 for something that I didn't do. 23 Is a magistrate not normally available for 24 25 arraignment after hours?

- 1 A. Yes, another trooper named Chris. I don't know his 2 name. I know his first name, Chris. I heard him say.
  - Q. Anyone else you can identify?
- A. He's the only one in the building besides Walker and me.
  - Q. You said that while you were sitting in that song [sic] Trooper Walker sang sex songs.
  - A. Yep.

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- Q. What songs did he sing?
- A. He sang -- it was -- now it was country songs. It was like -- let me think. I'm going to do something with you or we're going to do this, we're going to do that. It was just like songs, country songs, that had explicit-type -- what he wants to do to them, you know.
- Q. You don't know the title of any songs?
- A. I might be able to provide you with that. They were horrible. It was disgusting. And all he did was eat his food, that's it, for an hour.
- 19 Q. You said he made strange noises behind his desk --
- 20 A. Yeah.
- 21 Q. What kind of noises did he make?
- A. He was singing, humming. I don't know what he was doing. There was a -- there was a cubicle up. I was in the hall in front of the cubicle on a metal chair, and he was back there just -- I don't know -- grunting around. I don't

know if he was singing. I don't know what it was that he was doing. I know he heated up his food.

- Q. So singing and grunting were the strange sounds?
- A. Yeah. The guy, Chris, asked him if he needed help, and he said no. That was in the beginning. And then, after 30 minutes more went by and I was throwing up in a can, he he asked him again, do you need help processing her. And he said, no, I've just got to call Magistrate Rissler.
- Q. So you threw up in the trash can while you were sitting on the chair?
- A. I felt like I was going to throw up. I had dry heaves. I was shaking so violently that I couldn't hardly sit on the chair. I was so cold. I didn't have a blanket. I didn't have anything. I was just sitting there freezing and, yeah, was getting, like, dry heaves.

And then the other guy, I think, brought me a trash can and -- of course, nobody brought me a blanket or anything. I just couldn't -- I just couldn't stop. My teeth were chattering. I was freezing. I was just being punished, I guess, because I didn't shut up.

Q. You go on to allege that after Trooper Walker took you to magistrate court "he remained in his car with you in the seat in front of the magistrate court until the clock struck midnight."

About what time did you arrive at the courthouse?

the purpose of intimidating and coercing you into a guilty plea on false charges and to abet Trooper Walker in carrying out his malicious plan to ensure that you would spend one night in jail."

Did Trooper Walker even know about the state project before April 25th, 2016 or the Fairfax Project?

- A. You would have to ask him. I don't know.
- Q. Do you know -- you don't have any knowledge that he knew about it; is that correct?
- A. I don't know.

- Q. Why is everyone out to get you, Ms. Hamstead?

  MR. HAMSTEAD: I'm sorry. I didn't hear the question.
  - Q. Why is everyone out to get you?
  - A. Well, let's see. I've already explained that.

    Because they don't want me in the way of their beautiful sidewalk beautification project, un-vetted beautiful sidewalk project, I guess.
  - Q. Why would the police officers care about the sidewalk project?
  - A. I think the police officers just look for something to do. And when they have something to do and they get involved, it just keeps them from being bored, I think.
    - Q. Why does APU care about the sidewalk project?
    - A. I think APU just doesn't want to get involved because

MR. HAMSTEAD: Objection.

Q. In your complaint you allege that "Walker, Newlin, and Sigulinsky acted in concert or individually to violate your Fourth Amendment Right by unlawfully entering, searching, and seizing your property from your vehicle without probable cause."

Didn't you testify in circuit court last year that the APU video showed it was a contractor employee who entered your vehicle and got your license?

- A. There's -- at one point there is an APU contractor.

  It looks like a contractor getting in initially.
- 12 Q. So why do you allege --
- A. And then there's a police officer getting back in.

  My door was opened several times.
- Q. Do you know which police officer it shows getting in?
- 16 A. Sigulinsky.

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- Q. Have you gotten a new license since this incident in 2016?
- A. Yes, sir. I had to get a new license because I never got mine back. It was lost. It was somewhere around Walker's desk and it was lost.
  - Q. How much did you spend to get a new license?
  - A. I don't know. I forget what it costs. It's more so how much trouble did you go through because you always have to get -- when you've been married before and divorced, you

- A. Well, he's certainly an enabler. Let me just call him that.
- Q. Let's go to the next page, 241. Towards the bottom of this large paragraph, eight lines up from the bottom of the paragraph it says, "He" -- and I believe this is referring to Trooper Walker.

"He must also get some sick pleasure from collecting driver's licenses from his victim as he does not return them." And then you go on to state, "But we know that this is his pathologically sick routine, collecting the licenses of his victims."

Are you aware of any other instances where Trooper Walker did not return an arrestee's driver's license?

- A. Yes.
- Q. When?

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- A. We were told about -- that he -- that he does this.
- 17 Q. Who told you that?
- MR. HAMSTEAD: Object to attorney/client privilege on that.
- 20 A. Yeah. I'm going -- I'm going to say attorney/client 21 privilege on that one.
  - Q. Has anyone told you that Trooper Walker collects driver's licenses from arrestees?
    - A. That would be my lawyer who knows more about that. I don't.

- Q. You told the physical therapist that your left shoulder was already sore --
- A. I absolutely did. That's why I kept screaming for Office Walker to please let go of my bad shoulder -- my bad arm, which he ignored.

MR. JEFFRIES: All right, Ms. Hamstead. That's all I've got for now unless Mr. Hamstead wants to follow up with some questions.

MR. HAMSTEAD: I have a couple things I want to ask.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

## BY MR. HAMSTEAD:

- Q. So I'm not sure if it's clear on what you believe to be the approximate time when you were placed in Former Trooper Walker's cruiser. I'm not sure if it's clear on the record. What do you estimate to be the approximate time you were placed in the vehicle?
- A. I would say -- I would say it was approximately 11 minutes, probably -- 4:11.
- Q. Okay. Do you actually know the details with regard to the status of the foreclosure of the Kearneysville property? Do you -- do you know what that status really is?
- A. No, not really. I've kind of been not involved with that.
- Q. And the bankruptcy proceeding, we are represented -you are represented by an attorney on that, correct?